

REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank Examiner RoDee for allowing Claims 1-8, 11-13 and 21-22.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application, as amended, in view of the following remarks.

The objection to the specification under 35 U.S.C. § 132 is obviated by the attached Certified English Translation of the Japanese Priority document of the present application, JP 2001-046950 filed February 22, 2001. Applicants note that the English translation filed March 11, 2004, pertained to JP 11-258847 which is not the priority document of this case. Applicants note that the Japanese priority document is incorporated by reference at page 59 of the specification.

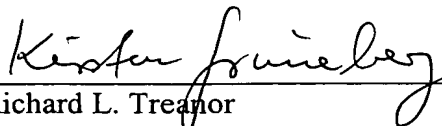
Claim 9 has been amended to include all limitations of allowable Claim 1 and as supported by Claim 10, at page 29 of the specification and by the Examples. Claim 10 has been amended as supported by Claim 10 as originally filed. Claims 9 and 10 may now be rejoined as previously requested in the Amendment filed November 24, 2004.

Non-elected Claims 14-20 have been canceled.

This application presents allowable subject matter, and the Examiner is kindly requested to pass it to issue. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the claims or otherwise wish to discuss this case, he is kindly invited to contact Applicants' below-signed representative, who would be happy to provide any assistance deemed necessary in speeding this application to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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